Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A catheter for medical applications, suitable for being inserted into a duct comprising a first vessel and a second vessel-which branches off from said first vessel, the catheter comprising a catheter body which extends from a proximal end to a distal end, said catheter body comprising a main cavity, bounded by a lateral wall, which passes through the catheter body between the proximal end and the distal end, suitable for receiving a guide cable for the insertion of the catheter into the first vessel, and at least one opening, disposed on the lateral wall at the distal end and suitable for perfusing a substance, characterized in that

the catheter body, at a portion of the lateral wall comprised between said at least one opening and said distal end, comprises

first and second occluding means, wherein the first occluding means are suitable for at least partially occluding a gap between the catheter body and an inner wall of the first vessel, and the second occluding means can be associated internally with said main cavity and are suitable for at least partially occluding said main cavity,

said first and second occluding means defining a preferred direction of outflow of a fluid from the main cavity of the catheter body to the second vessel, through said at least one opening of the catheter body;

wherein all the openings pass through said lateral wall and are in fluid communication with the main cavity,

said at least one opening is such that the area of the at least one opening is not less than the area of the cavity of the distal end of the catheter body, and

said openings are not aligned with one another with respect to a main axis of extension of the catheter body.

2. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said first and second occluding means co-operate with each other to create a resistance to the passage of fluid through said distal end, favouring an outflow of fluid through said at least one opening.

3. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said first and second occluding means, at a portion of the catheter body comprised between said at least one opening and said distal end, substantially effect the occlusion of the first vessel into which the catheter is inserted, so as to direct a flow of fluid into the second vessel, through said at least one opening.

4. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said first occluding means comprise an inflatable element positioned round the catheter body, said inflatable element, in a rest state, adhering substantially to the catheter body, and in a working state being substantially in contact with an inner wall of said first vessel.

5. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 4, wherein said inflatable element is in fluid connection with the proximal end so as to be operable from said proximal end.

6. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said catheter body comprises a secondary cavity, which extends from the proximal end to the distal end and is hermetically separated from said main cavity, said secondary cavity being in fluid connection with said first occluding means so as to permit the actuation of said first occluding means.

7. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 6, wherein said secondary cavity is produced in a thickness of said lateral wall of said catheter body.

8. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 6, wherein the catheter body has an oval cross-section having a first pole more pronounced than a second pole diametrically opposed to the first pole, so that the lateral wall, at the first pole, receives said secondary cavity.

9. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said second occluding means comprise an occluding body, suitable for being introduced into said main cavity, and an insertion cable firmly connected to said occluding body so as to allow the insertion of the occluding body through the main cavity.

10. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 9, wherein said occluding body is substantially spherical in shape.

11. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 9, wherein said occluding body is substantially frustoconical in shape.

12. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said catheter body, at said distal end, comprises a portion with tapered profile so as to reduce the cavity of the catheter body at the distal end.

13. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said second occluding means, at said distal end, comprise a membrane suitable for at least partially occluding said main cavity and having a hole suitable for allowing the passage of the guide cable of said catheter.

14. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 13, wherein said membrane is firmly connected to the distal end of the catheter body.

15. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said second occluding means are made of a material suitable for being sterilized.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, comprising, at said proximal end, a main pathway, suitable for receiving said second occluding means and fluidly connected to said main cavity.

19. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 18, wherein said main pathway comprises a threaded section capable of producing a threaded connection with a corresponding threaded portion of said second occluding means.

20. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said proximal end comprises a secondary pathway, fluidly connected to said secondary cavity, and suitable for receiving at the inlet a fluid for allowing the actuation of said first occluding means.

21. (Previously Presented) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said proximal end comprises an infusion pathway, fluidly connected to said main cavity and suitable for receiving at the inlet a fluid, so as to allow the flow of the fluid from the proximal end to the distal end.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for the use of a catheter comprising the steps of:

inserting the catheter into a first vessel, by means of a guide cable, so that a distal end of the catheter passes beyond a branching from which starts a second vessel into which it is intended to perfuse a substance;

withdrawing the guide cable and inserting a second occluding means;

actuating a first occluding means so as to occlude at least partially a gap between a catheter body and an inner wall of the first vessel;

injecting the substance into a main cavity of the catheter so as to direct the substance from at least one opening of a lateral wall of the catheter body to the bifurcation from which the second vessel starts.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the first vessel is a subclavian artery and the second vessel is a mammary artery.

24. (Original) A catheter according to claim 1, wherein said openings are disposed substantially in a helical direction with respect to the main axis of extension of the catheter body.